

# DEATH IN AN AWFUL FORM

## SLOWLY SCALDS, BEFORE HELPLESS SPECTATORS

John E. McGowan Is Killed in Rail-  
road Wreck at Dellwood—Pin-  
ioned Under Engine—Fire-  
man Hurt.

John E. McGowan, an engineer on the Northern Pacific railroad, was killed at 10:30 yesterday when his engine jumped the track at Dellwood, White Bear Lake. His right arm was broken near the shoulder and his left leg was fractured below the knee. Death resulted from being scalded.

L. F. Hokinson, the fireman of the train, was on the tender at the time of the accident. He escaped with a broken right ankle and a number of bruises. He was taken to St. Joseph's hospital. He is twenty-two years old and resides at 586 Burr street.

Engineer McGowan and his fireman were bringing to St. Paul from Stillwater a train of ten cars loaded with logs. The train was moving at a moderate speed as it approached Dellwood, where it was known that the roadbed had been weakened by the recent heavy rains. The train was only a short distance from the Dellwood station when the track sank beneath the weight of the locomotive.

### Engine Tips Over.

The coupling of the engine and tender broke and the engine tipped over on the right side, where McGowan was sitting with his hand on the lever. The tender also left the rails but remained in an up-

right position. Hokinson broke his ankle by jumping from the train.

McGowan was caught with his hand under the cab and was pinioned to the ground. The steam began to escape and the engineer was slowly scalded to death while hundreds of lake visitors watched him die and were powerless to render any assistance. He was found dead and buried in the soft sand by weight of the engine, after the steam had all escaped.

A wrecking crew was sent out from St. Paul but it was impossible to raise the engine and McGowan's body had to be

dug out. A ditch was excavated to where the body of the engineer lay. A special car brought the remains of the engineer and the injured fireman, Hokinson, to St. Paul.

### Made Famous Ride.

John E. McGowan became famous during the terrible forest fire which destroyed the town of Hinckley. He was firing at the time for Engineer Root who afterwards became renowned for his courage in taking a burning train to a place of safety and saved hundreds of lives. McGowan stood on the tender, while surrounded by flames, and doused his engine with buckets of water during the ride through the flames which almost destroyed the train. Mr. McGowan was the recipient at the time of a magnificent gift from the railroad company for his bravery.

John E. McGowan was thirty-six years old and resided with his family at 613 Cook street. He is survived by a widow and one child. He came to St. Paul from Linden, Wis., seventeen years ago. He was a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen.